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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/676,457	09/30/2003	Russell D. Wilfert	H0005177	7545
128	7590	08/16/2005	EXAMINER	
HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL INC. 101 COLUMBIA ROAD P O BOX 2245 MORRISTOWN, NJ 07962-2245			FETSUGA, ROBERT M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3751	

DATE MAILED: 08/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/676,457	Applicant(s) WILFERT, RUSSELL D.	
	Examiner Robert M. Fetsuga	Art Unit 3751	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 June 2005 and 28 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

1. Claims 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim 11 recites "a single, unitary stop structure". This language is not found in the originally filed disclosure and is therefore considered to constitute new matter.

Applicant argues at page 6 of the response filed June 03, 2005 Figs. 4 and 5 of the instant application "explicitly disclose a single, unitary stop structure as recited in claim 11." The examiner can not agree. Initially, it is noted the words "single" and "unitary" are not found in Figs. 4 and 5. In any event, paragraph 0020 of the instant specification teaches the stop structure 402 can be a "single, unitary structure formed as an integral part of the actuator assembly housing 126 by, for example, machining the cavity 408 into the assembly housing interface section 132." This disclosure is recited in claims 12 and 15. Alternatively, the noted paragraph teaches the stop structure 402 can also be "formed separately from the housing 126, and then coupled thereto." This disclosure does

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not specify the separately formed stop structure is a "single, unitary structure" as recited in claim 11.

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 11-18, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coffman, Mallon and Redding.

The Coffman reference discloses a valve assembly comprising: a valve body 1 including a fluid inlet 5, a fluid outlet 5 and an opening 2; a valve element 3 including a flow passage 4 and an interface shaft 11; an actuator assembly 14 including a housing having a valve interface section 21, and an output shaft 45; an engagement structure 23; and a stop

structure 22. Re claim 11, the actuator assembly meets the functional limitation "adapted to receive one or more position control signals" since the structure thereof is capable of being used in such a manner. Re claim 12, the "machined into" language is a product-by-process limitation. It is well settled that such a limitation can not operate to distinguish a claimed product from prior art when the structure set forth in the claim is otherwise found in the prior art. Re claim 20, the engagement structure is considered to be "integrally formed" as disclosed at page 3, lines 16-17, in Coffman. Therefore, Coffman teaches all claimed elements except for the actuator assembly being capable of rotating the output shaft, and for the stop structure being single and unitary.

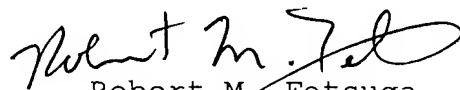
Although the actuator assembly of the Coffman valve assembly is not capable of rotating the output shaft, as claimed, attention is directed to the Mallon reference which discloses an analogous valve assembly which further includes an actuator assembly 80 that is capable of rotating an output shaft 90. Therefore, in consideration of Mallon, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the valve assembly art to associate an actuator assembly capable of rotating an output shaft with the Coffman valve assembly in order to enable releasing a firmly seated plug via the actuator assembly.

Although the stop structure of the Coffman valve assembly is not single and unitary, as claimed, attention is directed to the Redding reference which discloses an analogous valve assembly which further includes a stop structure 19,20 that appears to be single and unitary (pg. 1 lns. 55-57). Therefore, in consideration of Redding, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the stop structure art to associate a single unitary stop structure with the Coffman valve assembly in order to enable machining thereof.

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 11 at page 7 of the response filed June 03, 2005 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

5. Applicant is referred to MPEP 714.02 and 608.01(o) in responding to this Office action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert M. Fetsuga at telephone number 571/272-4886 who can be most easily reached Monday through Thursday.



Robert M. Fetsuga
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3751